

CITY OF OLNEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 23, 2016

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The May 23, 2016, meeting of the Olney City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Olney City Hall located at 300 S. Whittle Avenue, Olney, Illinois, with Mayor Ray Vaughn presiding.

AGENDA #2 “PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG-PRAYER” Council members and visitors joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Beau Brown led the group in prayer.

AGENDA #3 “ROLL CALL” The following Council members were present: Les Harrison, Belinda Henton, John McLaughlin, Bob Ferguson, and Ray Vaughn. Also present were City Manager Allen Barker, City Attorney Bart Zuber, City Clerk Kelsie Sterchi, and Assistant City Treasurer Jane Guinn.

AGENDA #4 “PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA”

4-A “Approve Minutes of Council Meeting on May 9, 2016”

4-B “Approve and Authorize Payment of Accounts Payable May 24, 2016” Pooled Cash \$27,540.99, Manual Pooled Cash \$10,457.40, Utility Refunds \$1,183.48, Tourism \$6,679.00, 175th Anniversary \$20,747.85, IMRF \$29,736.36,

4-C “Raffle License-Desk and Derrick Club of Olney”

4-D “Raffle License-Lori Kuhl for Duane & Jane Kocher Medical Expense Benefit”

4-E “Raffle License-Olney Quilt Guild”

AGENDA #5 “REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA” No items were requested for removal from the consent agenda.

AGENDA #6 “CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA” Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received to approve the consent agenda.

AGENDA #7 “CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA”

No consideration was necessary since no items were removed from the consent agenda.

Mayor Vaughn asked Pastor Brown how the recent Build Community event had been. The Pastor replied that the group went to 16 sites and performed yard work. There were 45 volunteers. Mayor Vaughn thanked Pastor Brown and the Build Community volunteers for their work.

AGENDA #8 “PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.”

8-A “Ordinance: Adopt a Revised Drug & Alcohol Abuse Policy for Drivers Who Hold a Commercial Driver’s License” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance to adopt a

revised drug and alcohol policy for CDL license holders, and a copy of the proposed policy. Mr. Barker told the Council that all full-time employees in the Park, Street, Mechanic, Water Distribution and Sewer Departments were required to hold a CDL license, per IBEW agreements. The policy revision was an accumulation of the old policy with many amendments that had been made over the years. Both the City Attorney and the IBEW representative had reviewed the proposed policy revision, and they had approved the changes.

Mayor Vaugh moved to approve Ordinance 2016-20, seconded by Councilwoman Henton. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-B “Request: Discounted Admission Rates for Small Blessings Christian Development Center of \$1.50 per Student and Free Admission for Each Accompanying Teacher for Specified Days in June and July” The Council was provided with a letter from Small Blessings Christian Child Development Center requesting a discounted pool admission price of \$1.50 per student, and free admission for their staff. Mr. Barker reminded the Council that the request had been approved several years in the past.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve a discounted pool admission rate of \$1.50 per student and free admission for staff of Small Blessings Christian Development Center for the 2016 year, seconded by Councilman Harrison. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-C “Ordinance: Authorizing Commercial Real Estate Lease with Illini Wire Works, Inc.” The Council was provided with a proposed ordinance authorizing lease of commercial real estate along Union Drive with Illini Wire Works, Inc. Mr. Barker explained that the leased property would be used for parking only. The proposed lease would run concurrently for five years, and if either party wished to terminate the lease, notice would have to be given before the end of the five year term.

Mayor Vaughn noted that the agreement would be at no expense to the City, and nominal improvements would be made to the property by Illini Wire Works, Inc.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve Ordinance 2016-21, seconded by Mayor Vaughn. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

8-D “Adoption of a Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code” The Council was provided with a proposed resolution for maintenance of streets and highways as provided by the Illinois Department of Transportation, and a listing of streets to be improved as part of the program. City Engineer Charleston and Street Department Supervisor Tom Umfleet had prepared the resolution required to appropriate the money necessary for the summer road maintenance program.

Mayor Vaughn noted that there were not as many streets listed compared to the prior year. He recalled that perhaps other funds were also used during the maintenance program in the prior year.

Mr. Barker did not favor the oil and chip method. He felt oil and chip streets did not hold up well to weather or snow blades. In the future, he would attempt to have some better options available. Other options may be more costly up front, but he felt the streets could be kept in better condition for longer periods of time.

Councilman McLaughlin recalled that a three year plan had been created to help manage street maintenance. According to his memory, some roads near Vernor Lake should have been addressed this year. Mr. Barker replied that he had seen a color coded map provided by the City Engineer, but was unsure on Mr. Charleston's specifics.

Councilwoman Henton asked if the maintenance work would be contracted. Mr. Barker replied that the City would grind the roads, but a contractor would resurface.

Councilman McLaughlin moved to approve the proposed MFT resolution as presented, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #9 "REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS"

9-A "Status Report-City Manager" The Council was provided with a Status Report from the City Manager. Mr. Barker began by telling the Council that an improved mosquito sprayer had been purchased. The factory representative would be visiting within the next few weeks to show the most efficient way to operate the machine. With the Zika virus situation, the machine may need to run more often than usual.

Equipment for sludge hauling was still being pursued. Mr. Barker hoped to have some promising options in the near future. The new equipment would pay for itself in about five years and would have a 15-20 year life span.

Councilman McLaughlin asked for an update on the Bandshell improvements. Mr. Barker replied that work is hoped to begin soon.

The Councilman then asked when the Washington Street water tower would be painted. Mr. Barker indicated that work should start within the next month with an expected completion in October.

The Mayor asked for an update on the 175th anniversary. City Clerk Sterchi told the Council that the newest update was that the Community Picnic tickets were now for sale. The tickets were at a price of \$3.00 each with children two and under eating free. The meal would be catered and held at the City Park on Sunday, July 24th. Mrs. Sterchi also added that area groups and organizations were adding events. A few City employees played the Richland County Trivia

recently hosted by the Olney Public Library, and a Cemetery Tour was upcoming on July 14th. Tickets for that event are \$10.00.

Mayor Vaughn then asked for an update from the Treasury Department. Assistant City Treasurer Jane Guinn updated the Council that the annual audit would begin on June 13th. She also wanted to point out that the Income Tax numbers appeared to be ahead, but within the next two months, the City should be about \$(40,000.00) behind.

AGENDA #10 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS”

10-A “Brian O’Neill” Brian O’Neill, 818 E. Main Street, told the Council that the Police Department did not understand certain ordinances and statutes. He had recently spoken to an officer about there being no noise ordinance near his residence as it was in a commercial area. Mr. O’Neill felt that if the officers did anything other than sit in their cars, that the jail would be filled. Filling the jail is what Mr. O’Neill would do as Sheriff. If more room was needed, he would let some detainees go on recognizance.

AGENDA #11 “CLOSED SESSION: SALE PRICE OF REAL PROPERTY; COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS; ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY; AND APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES”

Councilman Harrison moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss sale price of real property; acquisition of real property; collective negotiating matters; and appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Councilmen Harrison, McLaughlin, Ferguson, Councilwoman Henton, Mayor Vaughn, City Manager Barker, City Attorney Zuber, and City Clerk Sterchi left the Council Chambers at 7:19 p.m.

AGENDA #12 “RECONVENE OPEN SESSION” Upon return of those who were in closed session to the Council Chambers, Councilwoman Henton moved to enter back into open session, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Open session resumed at 7:38 p.m.

Councilman McLaughlin had recently heard that the Olney Little League was charging \$100.00 per field for use of the baseball diamonds during travel tournaments. He asked if the City received any money for that subletting. The Council was concerned with this as City employees were spending so much time, and overtime, maintaining the fields. Mr. Barker would research the issue.

The Council was aware that there were vacant lots owned by the City. The Council was interested in selling the lots that the City could not use. They would like to see some incentive placed to get those lots back on the tax roll.

Mr. Barker also told the Council that a new camera for the Sewer Department was estimated to cost about \$110,000.00. He felt that the vehicle holding this piece of equipment should also be upgraded. Sewer Department Supervisor Jeff Lathrop had recommended an old ambulance with a power supply.

Mr. Barker added that the Sewer Department boom truck was in poor condition, and would soon need replaced.

Mayor Vaughn commented that water and sewer rates had been raised over the past three years. This set of increases was the first in a number of years. He felt that the City needed to continue increasing the rates. More income would be necessary in order to meet upcoming needs.

Councilman McLaughlin told the Council that a ribbon cutting for the Together We Play Park would be the morning of June 18th. Mr. Barker added that a total of three bathrooms would be added near the playground; one men's restroom, one women's restroom, and one family restroom. Councilman McLaughlin hoped that the nearby parking area could be extended about 100 feet. This would allow 20 more parking spots, two of which would be for handicap parking.

AGENDA #13 "ADJOURN" Mayor Vaughn moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi
City Clerk